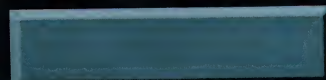




IAM

Annual Report
2002

International Assistance Mission



Working side by side with the Afghan people since 1966

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All photographs used with the kind permission of the IAM team members who took them.

Increased IAM support for Afghanistan

It is a special privilege to write this Annual Report of the IAM, since 2002 saw so many positive developments and changes. Particularly noteworthy were the successful Loyah Jirgah, the enthusiasm and commitment with which the Afghan Government sought to build up the nation and the vast international support, all of which greatly assisted Afghanistan's development. It is also a privilege for me to say that the supporting and donor agencies made it possible for IAM to implement projects through service and co-operation with people and communities in 13 provinces serving approximately 300,000 direct beneficiaries. The IAM project budget for 2002 was larger than in any other previous year - \$ 2.3 million. In February 2003 the IAM marked 37 consecutive years of service to the people of Afghanistan. It is a privilege to be part of bringing God's blessing to this nation.



Harri Lammi

IAM Executive Director since 1999

IAM

IAM is a consortium of 30 Christian organisations from 9 countries which provide most of IAM's funding and personnel resources. IAM's expatriate volunteer staff members come from about 15 different nations. The international headquarters of IAM has always been located inside Afghanistan, although IAM also has Swiss registration. Since the establishment of IAM in 1966 the IAM NOOR (National Organisation for Ophthalmic Rehabilitation) Eye Care Programme has provided comprehensive eye care, treating over 3 million Afghans. Additionally, hundreds of thousands of Afghans have benefited through other IAM programme areas ranging across the thematic fields of health care, education, rehabilitation, and economic and rural development.

A year of dynamic change

In 2002 about 1.7 million Afghan refugees returned to their own country. The speed with which this took place and the number of returnees surprised many. However, this rate of return was an indicator of the confidence that people had in the positive changes in the country. The IAM directly supported the reintegration process through its Disaster Management Programme.

During the year many donor agencies and Non-Governmental organisations brought their offices into the country, which was a significant and positive step forward by the assistance community. Also, nearly 30 diplomatic missions opened their offices in Afghanistan, further supporting the nation-building process.

Nation-building

The Interim Administration developed the National Development Framework (NDF) identifying 12 major development programme areas. This undertaking by the Government will greatly help to strategically channel development to the neediest areas. The IAM is closely following these developments, and its plans for 2003 and 2004 have been written in consideration of the NDF, as is evident in the IAM 2003 - 2004 brochure.

The main event of the year was the convening of the Loyah Jirgah meeting in Kabul, in which over 1,000 representatives from all parts of Afghanistan participated. As a result of the Loyah Jirgah a new Government, the Islamic Transitional Government of Afghanistan (ITGA) was formed, and His

Excellency, Hamed Karzai, was elected as the President of the country. The IAM extends its sincere support and appreciation for the visionary leadership of His Excellency, President Karzai, in this crucial nation-building task.

IAM Project Highlights of 2002

In February 2002 the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) appointed the IAM to be the **Focal Point for Eye Care** in Afghanistan.

In partnership with the MoPH, IAM's Eye Care Programme saw **an all-time record of 157,000 patients** during 2002. In late September the MoPH conducted a workshop for the development of the **National Comprehensive Eye Care Programme**. The IAM was very involved in facilitating this workshop as the German-based Christian Blind Mission (CBM), a member agency of the IAM, was the key sponsor of this workshop. The IAM wishes this national plan great success and is committed to being one of the key implementing agencies of this field.

The IAM **Mother and Child Health Programme** (MCH) continued to prosper: For example, in Ghor Province the community-based MCH Project renovated a referral centre / hospital in Lal-wa-Sarjantal and supported primary health care work in over 100 villages. Since access to health care is a crucial issue in this remote area, this project also helped in the construction of roads in the extremely difficult mountainous terrain of Hazarajat.

In co-operation with CARE International and SERVE, the IAM **Disaster Management Programme** (DMP) assisted refugees returning to Qarabagh and Guldara to rebuild their communities which had been shattered by decades of conflict.

The **Renewable Energy Sources in Afghanistan Project** (RESAP) renovated micro-hydro sites in former front-line zones (such as Istalif) providing sustainable electricity systems for returning, re-emerging communities. The site at Istalif was originally built by RESAP with community participation and IAM is pleased to co-operate in this vital rebuilding process.

10-year IAM strategy

IAM is committed to serving the Afghan people far into the future. These long-term intentions are expressed in our ten-year strategy document which is currently being finalised and arranged with reference to the NDF. Within the 10-year strategy the IAM intends to primarily be involved in long-term capacity building projects such as training eye doctors and physiotherapists for Afghanistan. As in the past, IAM will continue to focus on sustainable work of high quality and integrity in all aspects, and IAM continues to be available to co-operate with both the Afghan people in their communities, and with the Government in their service to the people.

I trust that you will find the 2002 Annual Report of the International Assistance Mission interesting and encouraging as you read of the work that one organisation has been able to undertake, by God's grace, immediately after the dramatic events of 2001.

Sincerely,



Harri Lammi, IAM Executive Director

The Training and Capacity Building Programme aims to equip Afghans to serve their communities in a variety of fields. This programme works in developing services for people with mental health problems, visual impairment and physical disabilities. It also provides training for local people in English as a foreign language. All projects are enjoying the new freedom of teaching men and women again.

The **Primary Mental Health Project (PMHP)**, in Herat is a unique pioneer effort, greatly needed in Afghanistan.

Community Work: Mental Health Workers (MHWs) analyse mental health needs in the community and train local leaders and professionals to identify and deal appropriately with these problems. In 2002 the 2 trained male MHWs worked with 8 villages in the Herat area, training 112 individuals in primary mental health issues. They also worked with 2 community forums and 2 orphanages in Herat, training 90 individuals. In addition to this, the MHWs held 3 intensive training courses for IAM staff in Kabul and Herat, training 43 individuals.

Materials for the training of physicians and nurses are also being developed with a view to training existing professionals and students in the coming year. A new psychiatric ward was instituted by the Ministry of Health in the Herat Regional Hospital, which the project was asked to support. Since September a weekly psychiatry seminar has been held for the 3 doctors who were responsible for the treatment of hospitalised psychiatric patients in the public hospital in Herat. Two of these doctors had no previous training in psychiatry. These doctors also received informal training and support in their daily ward rounds.

For the first time in many years, patients with severe psychiatric illnesses can be hospitalised in Herat and will receive a degree of specialist care.

Clinic: The twice-weekly Mental Health Clinic was expanded through a parallel clinic run by a local female physician who worked for two years as translator in the project. Now a local male doctor, who has been chosen as translator for the expatriate physician, is receiving informal "on the job" training. During 2002 the clinic received permission to also treat men, in addition to women and children. A total of 821 patients received treatment.



Sian Hawkins, Primary Mental Health Project leader, with school teachers following a mental health seminar in Jebreil, Herat province.

The **Visual Impairment Services for Afghanistan (VISA)** Project continues to support the government school for the visually impaired in Kabul, both financially and through staff development. Local administrative staff members are learning to apply for and to account for funding. The school had 55 visually impaired students attending courses in grades 1-7, 10 and 12. 35 new textbooks were brailled and printed. The previous Government Blind School building was restored by UNICEF and will be ready for use for the 2003 school year. A pilot project of micro-enterprise support was started to encourage people with visual impairments to develop skills for self-support, serving 18 families.



Children from the blind school in Kabul

Community Work

Rehabilitation workers continue to provide mobility, self-care and Braille teaching in the homes of visually impaired people in Kabul, serving 42 clients in 2002. 6 students were also supported in integrated education in local Kabul schools.

VISA was able to restart services in Mazar-e-Sharif in October, providing a trained specialist to work through the Mazar Ophthalmic Centre. Here referrals are made for rehabilitation services, such as mobility, self-care, Braille training and pre-school for young children. By the end of the year

20 referrals had been served. A similar service is being planned for Herat in 2003.

An **Orthotics Workshop** in Maimana is planned to open in the autumn of 2003. The expatriate orthotics technician returned to Mazar in the autumn of 2002 and started theoretical teaching for the three trainees who have been receiving clinical training at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Orthopaedic Workshop over the past year and a half. Plans for building an orthotics workshop in the Maimana Hospital compound are being made and work will start once funding is obtained. This service may expand to provide prosthetics services in the future, if deemed necessary.



The **Physiotherapy Institute (PTI)** continues to train Afghans to become physiotherapists.

Teaching

The interrupted two-year course for women was restarted in April with 10 students, and a six-month upgrading course was started in July for 7 male and 5 female students. Practically all the teaching and course scheduling is done by Afghan graduates. The Teacher Training Course was expanded to include a total of 15 candidates, with 4 out of 6 week-long modules taught this year. Some of these candidates participated in teaching the current two-year course.

Publishing

Progress on textbook revision has been made, with printing planned for early 2003. The Orthopaedic Physiotherapy textbook is undergoing revision and typing, and the translation and typing of a British Anatomy and Physiology textbook is almost complete. In addition, a Pashto translation of the Neurological Physiotherapy and Respiratory Physiotherapy textbooks has been completed and is ready for typing.

Developments in Afghanistan

Curriculum development meetings were hosted at the Institute of Intermediate Medical Education in the spring, in which 2 of the Afghan teachers actively participated in revising the curriculum.

The Afghan Physiotherapy Association was provided a small room for its administrative activities. PTI has advised this developing organisation and assisted in hosting their annual meeting.



English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

HERAT EFL

The project has been active in Herat, teaching 155 students from a wide range of backgrounds participating in five classes. Women are now able to attend courses and made up 25% of the student body in 2002. Two special courses on report writing were provided and were much appreciated by the NGO community. Teacher training courses were delayed in order to concentrate on improving the advanced English skills of the potential teachers this year.

KABUL EFL

Returning in October 2002, project personnel undertook a survey to determine the most valuable contribution that expatriate teachers can make in Kabul, given the increased number of English language courses now in the city. In addition to this, one expatriate teacher worked with the Centre of British Teachers on a contractual basis, training personnel from the Afghan Government and other official bodies. All negotiations and necessary preparations were made for the commencement of high-level English classes for professors at Kabul University in January 2003.

The Mother and Child Health (MCH) Programme aims to work with families and communities to improve health, health knowledge and practice through clinic work, training and community development.

The project based in the **Lal-wa-Sarjangal**, east Ghor Province, re-opened in February. In August a written invitation came from 6 new communities asking for health education. A survey was completed, village-wide health seminars were held and leaders selected 51 women to follow the next Community Health Worker (CHW) training in 2003. In the meantime 8 CHWs from 2 other communities graduated and were supplied with essential medicines for the winter. About 380 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) also received ongoing training.

Treatment

Outpatients

Children	3,237
Women	4,639
Men	356

Inpatients

223

The Referral Center has continued to offer curative, preventive, emergency and educational services to complement the community work. Of the patients seen at the clinic and in the valleys, children suffering from malnutrition were numerous and the number has continued to increase. This is due to the drought and perhaps also in the younger children, to their mothers being malnourished as they breast feed.

Training

There have been multiple teaching opportunities, including Health Education, ongoing training at the centre, "Doctors' Meetings" and an orthopaedic clinic, in addition to the community training. Those directly benefitting include local doctors from the bazaar and waiting relatives.

Relief Distribution

Despite the relief distributions of specialist agencies, great needs remain. In the spring the team distributed about 10 metric tons (MT) of oil and rice, a truckload of blankets and clothes, and thousands of notebooks, pencils and primary school books for local schools. They have co-ordinated Food for Work projects for road building, winter road clearing and other community felt needs.

Education

Education is an enormous felt need within the community. The project has assisted almost 10,000 children (20% girls) in schools and literacy courses.



The **Mother and Child Health clinic in Karte Seh, Kabul** has run well this last year. Staff members have participated in courses offered by various Government and Non-Governmental Organisations and have been active in some Government-led task forces. 3 or 4 of the 24 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) trained at the clinic continue to have ongoing supervision. The three most common disorders seen at the clinic are pneumonia, skin disorders and conjunctivitis.

Attendance at Karte Seh clinic, Kabul

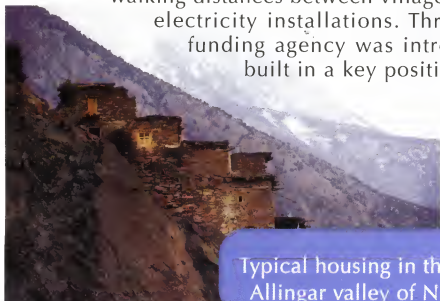
Women				Children		
	Prenatal	Other	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
2001	7,129	887	8,016	1,552	8,599	10,151
2002	9,955	683	10,638	7,001	6,838	13,839



When the **Mazar project** re-opened in July, surveys were repeated in the last two villages in which the team had been involved. Since then two women's forums have been established and these have met monthly to discuss health and community issues. Women feel they have little power to effect change but in a winter clothes distribution to 685 families, a number of them had the practical opportunity to show concern for the poor. Literacy classes have been well attended and enjoyed. Health Rooms have been operated by the team and CHWs. Although the scope of practice is limited, women and children still come for assistance.

Eleven new volunteer CHWs began training in December to replace those women who had moved or were no longer able to volunteer. Thanks to the First Aid lessons, one woman was able to prevent her neighbor from choking to death. One of the most concerning statistics is the increasing number of malnourished pregnant and breast-feeding mothers.

The team aiming to work in **Nuristan, eastern Afghanistan**, has made positive progress this year. A three-week mapping, population and leadership survey was done in Allingar Valley (western Nuristan). The person conducting the survey measured walking distances between villages and explored existing sites of micro-hydro electricity installations. Through the team's advocacy efforts, a large funding agency was introduced to the area, and a bridge is being built in a key position.



Typical housing in the upper Allingar valley of Nuristan

In the meantime, two new team members went through the language and orientation course. Established team members took on other tasks until planning and formal commencement of activities becomes possible in 2003.

Karokh and Chesht-e-Sharif, Herat Province

Early in 2002 a new project began in the districts of Karokh and Chesht-e-Sharif, Herat Province. These two areas were selected as being in great need of health interventions. Village elders identified their communities' most serious health problems as:

- lack of care for pregnant women
- lack of trained women to assist with deliveries

They said that each month 2 or 3 women suffer or even die from severe pregnancy-related complications!

Health service improvement began with the construction of 5 sub clinics and the renovation of 1 main clinic and its doctors' quarters.



The second objective was to raise **immunisation coverage** in the target areas to 70% for women and 90% for children. The outreach could only be done in Chesht-e-Sharif, and by the end of the year, 2 of the 3 rounds were complete.

The number of women and children immunised in 52 villages

Vaccine	Round 1	Round 2
DPT	4,875 children	4,675 children
TT	3,424 women	4,162 women

Laying the foundation...



...the building progressing...

The third objective was to conduct a **survey to measure the health knowledge and practice** of target communities and to assess immunisation coverage. The interviewers covered 600 households in the two districts. Some selected findings were:

- an exceptionally high mortality rate for under-5's
- only 5% of mothers having attended school
- a high incidence of diarrhoea and unacceptable care practices
- a lack of clean drinking water and sanitation
- inadequate coverage during immunisation campaigns/processes
- the majority of deliveries occurred at home with no assistance from trained persons.



... the clinic now completed.

At the beginning of 2002, the IAM NOOR Eye Programme was faced with devastating losses. It is remarkable, therefore, that this project also saw its largest expansion ever in one year. This was due mainly to the changed political atmosphere that has encouraged 1.7 million Afghans to return from neighbouring countries, and many others within the country to move freely. It was also due to the dedication of key Afghan staff as well as the rapid return of some of the foreign personnel.

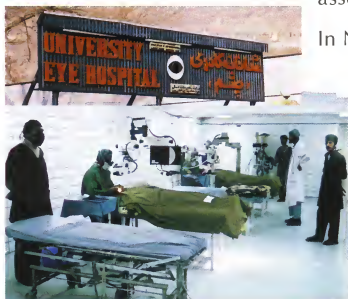
KABUL REGION

Since Kabul is the largest city and the capital of Afghanistan it is here that many ophthalmic activities are carried out. IAM NOOR, for example, supports two inpatient facilities. The largest is an 80-bed hospital administered by the Ministry of Public Health with IAM giving supplies, technical assistance and some incentives for the employees. The IAM NOOR project has worked for many years under an agreement with the Ministry of Higher Education to provide an eye hospital associated with the Kabul Medical Institute.



This patient was badly injured in a landmine explosion.

In November, the **University Eye Hospital** was opened after extensive renovations were completed on a building donated by this Ministry.



The 35-bed teaching eye hospital will conduct a three year residency programme which will graduate two competent ophthalmologists per year. For a period of time, this teaching and referral centre will be closely administered by the IAM. Between these two hospitals approximately 75,000 outpatients

were seen and around 5,400 surgical procedures were performed.

Kabul is also where IAM NOOR has both its medical and optical central supply storerooms for the country. Associated with this inventory are manufacturing units for both medicines and optical goods which employ 12 full-time national staff.



The medicine factory, for example, produced almost 200,000 bottles of low cost eye drops, as well as a number of other essential supplies.

In the optical area, many difficult prescriptions were made at economical prices, along with a large quantity of more normal eyeglasses.





The Ophthalmic Technicians Training School, in partnership with the Institute of Intermediate Medical Education, holds a two-year course preparing both men and women to fill a vital role in ophthalmic care in Afghanistan. They are trained to work both independently in areas where there are no ophthalmologists as primary eye care providers, and also to work alongside ophthalmologists where they are available. In 2002, the school increased from 12 to 24 students with the addition of a women's section.

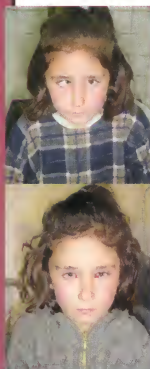
MAZAR REGION

IAM NOOR also supports the Mazar Ophthalmic Centre (MOC) in the city of Mazar-e-Sharif in the north of Afghanistan. This 35-bed hospital has been a centre of medical excellence for almost ten years. The year 2002 was significant for MOC in that they increased the number of sight saving operations by 25% compared with the numbers of the previous few years. A total of 20,968 outpatients were given consultations at the clinic during the year. A pilot school-screening project resulted in 109 teachers at 6 schools receiving training in Visual Acuity tests. 5000 students were tested and those with very bad vision were referred to the clinic. MOC has continued the ophthalmology training programme that has supplied the north of Afghanistan with many competent eye doctors over the past decade. MOC also manufactured approximately 50,000 bottles of eye drops and produced a large number of eyeglasses.



HERAT REGION

The year 2002 was a time of major advances for the Herat Ophthalmic Centre (HOC). HOC is an MoPH run facility in Herat which is given significant support by IAM. The events of 2001 led to changes in the management of HOC, greatly improving ophthalmic care at this 40-bed facility. The most significant changes were the implementation of a fair cost recovery system and a six month Intra-Ocular Lens (IOL) surgical training programme conducted by one of the doctors from the Mazar Ophthalmic Centre. HOC staff also attended ophthalmic seminars in Pakistan. A school-screening survey was undertaken. To further increase access to eye care an outpatient eye clinic was established at the MoPH polyclinic in Herat City. Regular one day clinics were held in the Maslakh Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp during the year. Additionally there were 2 eye camps held in Chesht-e-Sharif and Chagcharan. In all the camps and at the clinic a total of 57,000 consultations



and 2,067 operations were performed. As in Mazar and Kabul, HOC provides other optical products and manufactures eye drops (86,781 bottles of eye drops were produced).

PROVINCIAL OPHTHALMIC CARE

In all three regions, ophthalmic care is provided outside of the main cities. The MOC project, for example, conducted a comprehensive prevention of blindness education programme with one specially trained ophthalmologist fully dedicated to this task. In addition, primary care day clinics, school-screening programmes and surgical eye camps were conducted.

HOC also had a similar provincial primary eye care programme which paid special attention to the large numbers of internal refugees camped around that city.

The Provincial Ophthalmic Care (POC) Project based in Kabul concentrated on two areas. The first was the establishment of day clinics in a number of regularly visited sites within two hours drive from Kabul. These clinics provide basic/primary eye care to these communities, along with prevention of blindness education, while referring surgical cases to the city itself.

The other initiative of the POC project in 2002 was to set up small community based eye hospitals in major population centres around the country. In

the central Hazarajat one such hospital began in the Panjao region while plans for two more in 2003. About twenty of these 4 to 10-bed units will eventually be needed in Afghanistan, and they will play a major role in making eye care accessible to all the people of this country.



The remit of the Disaster Management Programme (DMP) is to prepare communities throughout Afghanistan for rapid and slow onset disasters in order to mitigate the damaging results. This will be achieved by increasing capacity to meet the effects of natural disasters and reducing vulnerability to them in communities. DMP works both independently and also in very close co-operation with other IAM Programmes to achieve this aim.



In January DMP resumed its activities within Afghanistan. Since DMP was a new IAM programme, having only been started in 2001, there was a lot of conceptual and practical re-working to be done. The changed environment, particularly in the field of relief work was immense; the situation was both complex and fast moving. The work of rapid relief agencies necessitated and allowed room for very careful planning and positioning of DMP as a long-term disaster preparedness and mitigation organisation.

During the year work started in three locations, and planning began for work in three more.

Qarabagh District of Kabul Province, on the Shamoli plains.

CARE International built for returnees to the Shamoli plains. This project not only provided physical infrastructure, but also necessary education in hygiene practice. During the first stage of the project 500 latrines were constructed in four months and a second four-month phase produced 1,000 further latrines. 55 masons were also trained. More than 1,200 families received four sessions of health and hygiene education.

DMP constructed latrines for the dwellings, which



Three surveys with 2,190 families were completed. These looked at knowledge, attitudes and practices before and after the intervention. Vulnerability surveys with the same people were completed (2,200 women, 2,800 men). These have given a detailed profile of the community members and have been used to develop project plans for 2003.

Karte Seh District of Kabul city

34 women from the most vulnerable group in the Karte Seh area were recruited to begin production of "Ard-e-qwat" (superflour) – a highly nutritious food supplement made from locally available grains and pulses. This income generation project has grown significantly producing over 30,000 kg in the last six months of the year. Most of this has been sold to local agencies running supplementary feeding



centres. UNICEF also signed a contract with IAM initially to provide 60,000 kg of superflour, and for IAM to give training in production techniques to other agencies.

In addition to the production work, the women receive adult literacy, health and hygiene education on a daily basis. **The Ministry of Public Health has welcomed this development of local production of high nutrition value food supplements, as opposed to importing these products.** Discussions are continuing as to how to replicate this project throughout the country.

Guldara District, Kabul Province, on the edge of the Shamoli plains

As with the Qarabagh project, the emphasis has been on providing sanitation and housing for returning refugees. DMP has co-ordinated this assistance effort with SERVE, another NGO. DMP has built 600 latrines to date with a further 400 in progress. Over 20 male and female community liaison staff have given extensive health and hygiene education.



Core Office

Throughout the year the Kabul DMP core office built up capacity to provide logistic, financial and administrative support to each DMP project. In addition staff have learned "needs assessment" skills and can be deployed should a rapid response be required in the future.

Looking forward to 2003

Further work in Guldara and Qarabagh and with the superflour project is anticipated in 2003 following more detailed assessment and planning. DMP work will also be starting in Herat. Initially, training in disaster preparedness and mitigation will be given to the staff of the IAM Community Development project working out of Herat city. This training will then be extended via the DMP Kabul office to others who are interested. Other work in Herat will include information gathering and developing of plans for the central western areas of the country.

Kapisa Province, two hours north of Kabul, has very little outside assistance, and its communities are particularly vulnerable whenever natural disasters, such as an earthquake or flood, strike. Plans have been developed and 5,000 vulnerable people have started work, producing quilts and curtains. A flood protection scheme is being planned to commence in April 2003.

The Hazarajat area in the centre of the country has been badly affected by the drought. This was compounded by access problems during the latter part of the year. Road reconstruction and snow clearance work on airstrips were started in partnership with a national NGO. Plans for further assistance in 2003 were researched particularly regarding water retention schemes.

The aim of the Rural and Economic Development Programme is to help Afghans in their quest for economic development, through training, advocacy, relevant technology, research and co-operative community enterprises.

Community Development Projects

The Community Development Projects work with selected communities to increase their capacity to meet their basic needs, to encourage their continued development using their own resources and to improve their individual/communal lives in a just and sustainable manner

Community Development Project (CDP) of Mazar-e-Sharif

also restarted its work after an 11-month closure. Two villages, Rubat-e-Chental and Saidabad – Balkh, were re-surveyed before the work was restarted. Relationships were established with 20 other agencies working in the area to help connect target communities with these organizations. Participatory Rural Appraisals have continued in both villages through the development/village councils. In both villages the focus has been on re-establishing relationships and determining future projects.

The following interventions have been completed by CDP Mazar:

- Women's Basic Health Workers course for 23 women
- Child to Child courses for 86 girls
- Community Based Rehabilitation training for community health workers
- Six men trained as Basic Veterinary Workers
- Irrigation channel repair work
- 29.5 MT of wheat seed distributed on a loan basis
- Literacy course for 42 women



Community Development Project (CDP) of Herat. The work was re-started in June after a 10-month closure resulting from the events of 2001. CDP was able to complete the interventions that had been started in 2001 despite the fact that the closure had a negative effect on work and relationships. The project started 42 new interventions in the 4 current target communities and in 4 new communities. These new projects benefited 2,466 families from 10 villages in 3 districts.

In 2 villages in the Herat area, in accordance with its long-term goal, the project was able to hand responsibility for further development activities to the local development councils. These councils had been formed with the assistance of the CDP workers. Special consideration of activities/interventions for young men and women resulted in para-vet training and over 300 young people receiving basic literacy training.

Renewable Energy Sources in Afghanistan Project (RESAP)

The purpose of the RESAP programme is to improve the standard of living of Afghan people by promoting environmentally friendly and sustainable energy technologies.

This is done by complementing other development efforts and encouraging relevant small-scale businesses, such as the private manufacture and sale of solar water heaters. RESAP has three components, solar project, micro-hydroelectric project and a Direct Seeding Agricultural Project. The solar component, although extensively developed and used in previous years, concentrated its work on a contractual basis during 2002. Repair work of older equipment was also performed.

23 construction projects were begun in 2002, including:

- 2 school in 2 villages for 744 children of 396 families
- Rehabilitation of irrigation channels, water retention dams and local under-ground channels, called Kareezes, from which 770 families benefited
- Rehabilitation of bridges and roads for 1,000 families in 3 villages
- Private wells for 1,920 families in 6 villages
- Private latrines, bathrooms and kitchen, for 1,500 families in 3 villages

19 educational projects were begun in 2002, including:

- Seven Basic Health Education courses for 907 families in 7 villages
- One Traditional Birth Attendants' course for 25 women, indirectly benefiting 700 families in 3 villages
- 4 Malnutrition Prevention courses for 321 women in 4 villages, indirectly benefiting 1020 families
- Para-vet training for 21 young men
- Basic Literacy courses for 148 young men and 178 young women in three villages

The Micro Hydroelectric Project completed 5 hydroelectric power plants. These plants provided power to 510 families. Two additional locations have been surveyed as prospective power plant sites. These surveys required monitoring of the water supply throughout the year and involved extensive discussion with local leaders and assessment of prospective community involvement. In conjunction with establishing micro-hydro power, a RESAP-trained contractor completed his first stone water mill site. The advantage of this type of site is that in addition to providing electricity, the village is able to grind its own wheat.

The Direct Seeding in Afghanistan Project (DSAP) is an agricultural research and demonstration project carried out in co-operation with the Ministry of Agricultural. In January the project planted 35 hectares of wheat in using direct seeding, a special technique used for rain-fed areas, which is particularly beneficial for drought-affected land. This form of sowing does not require ploughing but rather a hole is punched into the ground



and seed is deposited and covered over. This wheat outperformed the same wheat seeded by the local community during the traditional planting season in March. The ongoing drought has greatly affected wheat crops in Afghanistan, as annual rainfall was about 57% of normal. However, early results from this experimental project showed that the direct seeding did produce higher yields than traditional methods.



Skills Development Project (SDP)

SDP's purpose is to improve the quality of life of poor Afghans by assisting them to become self-supporting through providing skills training. In addition, people are trained in literacy and business principles, given micro-loans, and introduced to new skills and products.

SDP works in two locations, Herat and Farah.

SDP's work was re-activated in March and the project reached its scheduled completion in mid-July. 38 of the original 50 men returned to the courses in Herat and 33 returned in Farah. 18 graduates in Herat and 28 in Farah were assisted in setting up new enterprises. Most of the SDP graduates from earlier training cycles improved their economic circumstances. A number of loans were distributed to graduates to assist in the establishment of new enterprises. Of these, approximately 35% have been repaid so far. During the training cycle, trainees also received extra-curricular training to assist them once they were established in their businesses. In Herat 26 apprentices resumed literacy training and 37 apprentices attended the Business Management classes. In Farah 25 apprentices resumed literacy training and Business Management classes.

Apprentices receive training in.

- motorbike repair
- bicycle repair
- tin smithery
- embroidery
- car body repair
- upholstery
- tailoring
- wiring
- radio repair
- shoe making
- plumbing
- furniture making

Executive Office

The Executive Director is responsible to the IAM Board of Managers and to the Government to ensure that all IAM work is done according to agreed practices, policies and protocols. Throughout the year the Executive Director had meetings with key Government officials, diplomats and donors. In June, along with three other NGOs, IAM was elected by the NGO community to be a member of the Programme Secretariat for Health, a co-ordination body involving the Government, World Health Organisation and major donor bodies. Since then, the Programme Secretariat has been transformed into a Consultative Group (CG). The IAM is not in the CG but actively participates in most co-ordination and support mechanisms.

Personnel Office

The Personnel Office is responsible for the recruitment and orientation of all expatriate Team Members. Throughout the year the Personnel Office co-ordinated the return or arrival of 90 expatriate team members and about 50 children.

Publications, Information and Media Services - The IAM Annual Report, Donor Appeal package and 2003-2004 introductory booklet were published and were well received.

Language and Orientation Programme - A total of 11 new expatriate personnel completed the five and a half month Language and Orientation Course. 5 new teachers and 1 new administrator were employed and trained. Over 2,000 private lessons were given to IAM team members and expatriates from other NGOs.

Member Care - All IAM personnel, both expatriate and national, have had access to trained Member Care personnel.

Children's Education Programme - Quality education for children of assistance workers is one way of ensuring long-term assistance for Afghanistan. Throughout the year the school grew from having 1 teacher and 3 children to 4 teachers having a total of 22 children from ages 5 to 13.

Training and Staff Development - A new position to facilitate further personal and professional development of all IAM staff was created in 2002. In addition to other seminars and training courses, the Afghanistan Orientation Course designed for expatriate personnel new to Afghanistan has been run 4 times. To date there have been 61 participants from approximately 15 organisations.

Communications

At the beginning of 2002 IAM was dependent on a small residue of equipment which had survived the events of 2001. By the end of the year sufficient communications equipment had again been purchased and installed for IAM work and security needs. In September a VSAT terminal was installed in the IAM Headquarters by PACTEC (Partners in Communication and Aviation Technology) allowing direct Internet and e-mail access for Kabul personnel and offices, radically improving IAM communication capabilities with donors and member agencies. Access to this e-mail system by HF data transmission was made available to the Herat, Mazar and Lal offices in October.

Logistics

The Logistics Office provides information and assists the projects and offices with their logistical needs. This includes procurement, transportation and clearance of goods through customs, maintaining an inventory of capital equipment, assisting with the maintenance of capital equipment and arranging the travel of personnel. This year was particularly challenging for the Logistics Office because of the constantly changing situation as new opportunities developed and as demands and expectations grew in the new environment in Afghanistan. The reinstatement of Kabul's airport as an international airport has been particularly significant, opening up the potential for direct imports and direct travel from Europe and Asia.

Regional Offices

The three main Regional Offices in Herat, Kabul and Mazar support IAM personnel and IAM project work in each region. This is achieved through liaison and representation with the government and the NGO community, logistics and other physical support, including housing rental, and overall assistance to projects or individual team members. None of the funds contributed to IAM programmes are used for housing expenses of expatriates. All of the IAM expatriate workers come as volunteers and have their expenses covered by their sending agencies.

Herat

The Herat Regional Office re-opened in February. All 5 IAM projects were restarted in Herat by July 2002. A clinic reconstruction project was also begun. 7 permanent and 5 short-term team members lived in the region.

Kabul

The Kabul Regional Office, which re-opened after IAM returned to Afghanistan in December 2001, supported a team of approximately 60 adults with 25 children, who returned to continue work in the 7 area projects, as well as in the national headquarters. 13 new team members with 4 children were also welcomed and helped to settle into the country. Exorbitant rent increases forced most team members to relocate to other parts of the city and necessitated the rental and renovation of 19 properties. The IAM headquarters also had to relocate to Karte Seh.

Mazar

The Mazar Regional Office re-opened in March. 11 team members with 7 children returned to continue or to re-establish the IAM project work in the Region and 2 new team members joined the Mazar team.

Peshawar Support Office and Guesthouse

At the beginning of 2002 the Peshawar Office with its guesthouse was an invaluable support base for the return of IAM expatriate personnel to Afghanistan. The office provided good support in buying medical and other supplies for IAM projects.

With 22 projects and approximately 600 full-time Afghan and expatriate personnel across the country, IAM has developed structures to make co-ordinated planning, group accountability, support and reliable communications possible. IAM support offices and personnel exist to facilitate and serve the work of IAM projects and hence the people of Afghanistan.


Steven Martin

IAM Finance Director since 1997

The year 2002 was a challenging one financially. Many more aid agencies started operations in the country and there was a resulting increase in rent and salary costs. The Afghan Government, on the other hand, introduced a new currency which, together with other financial controls, brings the hope of greater stability to the Afghan economy.

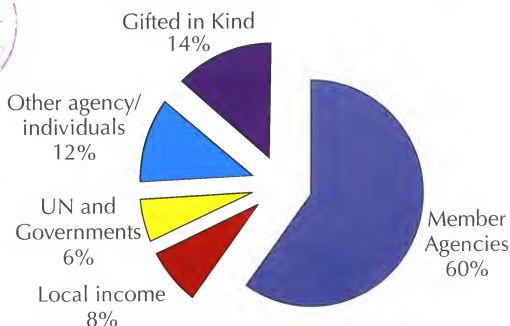
Due to the above factors, the IAM General Fund was heavily strained, although the overall Balance Sheet remains good.

IAM is appreciative of all those who have supported the work in an extra way financially. We look forward to continued partnership in the future as we serve the people of Afghanistan,

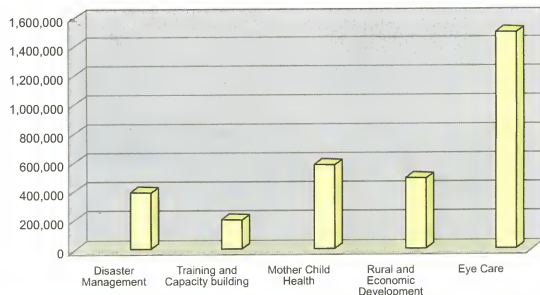
Yours Sincerely,

Steve Martin (IAM Finance Director)

Sources of Programme income



PROGRAMME EXPENSES



The International Assistance Mission
Balance Sheet*
Year ended 31st December 2002

ASSETS	
Debtors	\$ 430,987
Prepaid Expenses	55,142
Investments	102,500
Cash on short term deposits, at bank and in hand	760,968
Total Assets	\$ 1,349,597
 LIABILITIES	
Creditors	\$ 325,330
 FUNDS AND RESERVES	
Project	781,580
General	(101,848)
Total Funds	679,732
Designated Reserves	344,535
Total funds and reserves	1,024,267
 Total liabilities, funds and reserves	 \$ 1,349,597

*Finances pending audit at the time of printing

IAM Headquarters Address:

Street Address: IAM Headquarters, Sarak-e-Shora, Karte Seh, Kabul, Afghanistan
Postal Address: IAM Headquarters, P.O. Box 625, Kabul, Afghanistan
Phone Numbers: Office Hours 00 93 (0) 20 2501185 or 00 873 762 841460
 Emergencies only 24hrs 00 88 216 54201012
Email: hq@iamafg.org

Donations to assist in the work of IAM should be forwarded to the following accounts:

First Union Bank

Address: 740, 15th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, USA
Account Number: 2000014004809

Lloyds Bank

Address: Charing Cross London Branch, 49 Strand, London, WC2N 5LL
Account Number: 0361489
Sort Code: 30-91-79

Deutsche Bank

Address: Postfach 200606, D-80271 Munchen 2, Germany
Account Number: 2306850 00



The International Assistance Mission (IAM) was established as a non-profit, voluntary organisation on February 2, 1966 and is registered as a charity organisation in Switzerland.

Within Afghanistan, the IAM is registered with the Ministry of Planning of the Government of Afghanistan.